

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

In the Office Action dated August 10, 2005, claims 2, 6-9 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,212,643 to Yoshida (hereinafter referred to as "Yoshida"), European Patent No. 0 378 271 to De Jong et al. (hereinafter referred to as "De Jong"), United States Patent No. 6,011,494 to Watanabe et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Watanabe"), and United States Patent No. 6,236,912 to Bomans et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Bomans"). Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe, and Bomans in view of United States Patent No. 6,012,014 to Koyanagi et al. (hereinafter referred as "Koyanagi"). By this amendment, Applicants amend pending independent claims 2 and 9.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 6-9 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe and Bomans. Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, claim 2 recites, *inter alia*, "wherein said microcomputer is configured to selectively display said perspective view and a plane view on said display device, wherein in said perspective view, said arc of the equidistant curve is displayed on the basis of said arc's display data being superimposed on said map displayed on said display device, and in said plane view a corresponding distance from the center of

said arc of equidistant curve is displayed on one of a plurality of said arcs of equidistant curves.”

Although Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe and Bomans disclose navigation apparatuses, Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe and Bomans fail to teach or suggest a microcomputer configured to selectively display perspective views and plane views on its display device such that in the perspective view an arc of equidistant curves is displayed dependent on the arc's display data being superimposed on the map display and in the plane view a corresponding distance from the center of the arc of equidistant curves is displayed on one of a plurality of arcs of equidistant curves.

Furthermore, claim 9 recites, *inter alia*, “displaying an arc, which is an equidistant curve from a center at a specified point on said map and links points on said perspective view at a constant distance corresponding to actual road distances from said center equal to those on said map, and selectively displaying said perspective view and a plane view on said display, in said perspective view said arc of equidistant curve being displayed on the basis of said arc's display data being superimposed on said map displayed on said display device, and in said plane view a corresponding distance from the center of said arc of equidistant curve being displayed on one of a plurality of said arcs of equidistant curves.”

In contrast to claim 9, Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe and Bomans fail to teach or suggest selectively displaying perspective views and plane views on a display such that in the perspective view an arc of equidistant curves is displayed dependent on the arc's display data being superimposed on a map display and in the plane view a

corresponding distance from the center of the arc of equidistant curves is displayed on one of a plurality of arcs of equidistant curves.

Claims 6-8 depend from independent claim 2 and are patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as is claim 2.

Claims 13-15 depend from independent claim 9 and are patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as is claim 9.

In light of the foregoing arguments, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 6-9 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe, and Bomans is respectfully requested.

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe, and Bomans in view of Koyanagi. Koyanagi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe, and Bomans. Thus, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, claim 16 depends from independent claim 2 and is patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as is claim 2, and claim 17 depends from independent claim 9 and is patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as is claim 9.

In light of the foregoing arguments, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida, De Jong, Watanabe, and Bomans in view of Koyanagi is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance

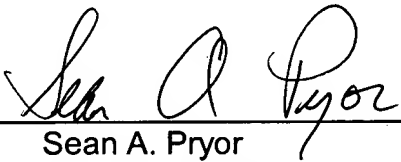
of the pending claims. If, for any reason, the Examiner disagrees, please call the undersigned agent at 202-408-6023 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action.

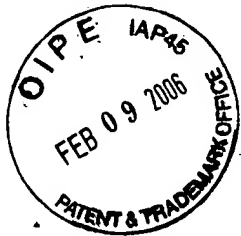
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 9, 2006

By: 
Sean A. Pryor
Reg. No. 48,103



PLEASE STAMP TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:

In Re Application of:
Hiroshi MAEDA et al.

Confirmation No.: 5119

Application No.: 09/553,530

Group Art Unit: 2173

Filed: April 20, 2000

Examiner: Brian J. Detwiler

For: ELECTRONIC MAP APPARATUS AND ELECTRONIC MAP DISPLAY METHOD

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1. Petition for Extension of Time (three months) (fee to be charged to Deposit Acct.)
 2. Reply to Office Action

Dated: February 9, 2006

Docket No.: 09812.0516-00000

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(Due Date: 02/10/06)